

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1. - 6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) ~~An actuator~~ Actuator for use as in a buckle of a safety belt for indicating that a tongue of the belt has been inserted into the buckle and properly latched, comprising:

first and second two ~~two~~ contact elements[[,]]; and

a housing and a slide.;

said the ~~contact elements~~ each consisting of leaf spring material and including comprising ~~contact-effecting~~ portions[[,]];:

a contact-effecting portion of said ~~[[a]] first contact element of the contacts comprising including~~ two contact blades, said blades being adjacently disposed and separated by a predetermined space;

said the ~~housing including non-movable walls, said walls defining comprising~~ a space in which both the ~~contact-effecting~~ portions are contained, the space being sufficiently bounded by walls of the housing said walls to at least substantially ~~preventing prevent~~ incursion of foreign matter into said the ~~space~~[[,]];:

said walls defining the housing also including ~~an open-ended channel disposed adjacent to~~ said space and partitioned from said space by a portion of said walls[[,]];:

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said second contact element including a portion projecting into said channel
and said second contact element being actuated by moving a slide in said channel
~~the slide being slidably received in said channel for actuating the contact elements~~
so that the respective contact-effecting portions thereof are brought into or out of
contact with each other.

8. (Currently Amended) The actuator of ~~Actuator according to~~ claim 7, wherein
said protecting portion of said second contact element projects into said channel
between said blades of said first contact element, ~~a second of the contact elements~~
~~further comprises a portion projecting through a space between the blades of the~~
~~first contact element and at least partially into the channel so that said projecting~~
portion of a ~~the~~ second contact element is engageable by the slide to move the
contact-effecting portion of the second contact element out of contact with the
contact-effecting portion of the first contact element.

9. (Currently Amended) The actuator of ~~Actuator according to~~ claim 7, wherein
~~a second of the contact elements further comprises a portion projecting directly at~~
~~least partially into the channel so that said projecting portion of the second contact~~
element is engageable by ~~the~~ a slide to move the contact-effecting portion of the
second contact element into contact with the contact-effecting portion of the first
contact element.

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10. (Currently Amended) The actuator of ~~Actuator according to~~ claim 8 or 9, wherein the second contact element comprises a contact spring and the two blades of the first contact element are elastically bendable independently of one another when the contact-effecting portions thereof are contacted by the contact-effecting portion of the second contact element.

11. (Currently Amended) The actuator of ~~Actuator according to~~ claim 10, wherein the contact-effecting portion of said contact spring is of hammer-like shape and the projecting portion of said contact spring is curved.

12. (Currently Amended) The actuator of ~~Actuator according to~~ claim 7, further comprising a frame disposed at an end of the housing opposed to an end of the housing adjacent wherein the contact-effecting portions of said two contact elements are housed, the frame defining a space for projection thereinto of connections of electrical wires to the contact elements.

13. (New) A switch for a belt buckle for restraining systems of motor vehicles for indicating that the tab of the belt has been inserted into the belt buckle and locked properly, comprising:

first and second contacting metal sheets;

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one of the contacting metal sheets being formed at its contacting end as a double-contacting tab, the contacting end being disposed within the belt buckle;

wherein contacting regions of the contacting metal sheet are provided in an upper interior space of the switch housing;

the interior space being protected from foreign materials;

the switch housing being disposed within the belt buckle;

a contacting metal sheet being constructed as a contacting spring;

the spring including a hammer-shaped region at the contacting end and a central arc-shaped region;

the arc-shaped region of the contacting spring protruding into a channel;

the channel being disposed at a side of the interior space of the housing; and

the contact being switchable by moving a slide in the channel.

14. (New) The switch of claim 13, wherein the contacting metal sheets mutually penetrate one another, the contact being breakable by the action of the slide on the contacting spring.

15. (New) The switch of claim 13, wherein the contacting metal sheets do not mutually penetrate one another, the contact being closable by moving the slide against the contacting spring.

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16. (New) The switch of any one of claims 13-15, wherein the two contacting tabs of the fixed contacting metal sheet being independently deflectable away from one another by the hammer-shaped region of the contacting spring.

17. (New) The switch of any one of claims 13 to 15, wherein the switch housing, at an end opposite to the contacting region, contains a frame, the frame being open at its front and back and surrounding the contacting space, the cable-connecting sites of the two contacting metal sheets protruding from the contacting space.